

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NIC-01 OPR-02 SAJ-01 CU-04 COME-00 EB-11

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /128 W

----- 112864

R 151938Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7596

INFO AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

AMCONSUL LYON

AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

AMCONSUL NICE

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

UNCLAS PARIS 6632

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLAB, FR

SUBJECT: STUDENTS/WORKERS' DEMONSTRATIONS MARCH 14

1. ON MARCH 14, AN ESTIMATED 15,000 PERSONS MARCHED IN A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT DEMONSTRATION IN DOWNTOWN PARIS TO PROTEST MINISTER OF EDUCATION FONTANET'S PROPOSED REFORM OF SECONDARY EDUCATION (PARIS A-42). ALTHOUGH THIS IS A WELL CONCEIVED REFORM, RADICAL STUDENTS ARE LABELING IT AS A DISGUISED FORMOF "SOCIAL SELECTION" DESIGNED TO LIMIT ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY EDUCATION. SEPARATELY, BUT ON THE SAME DAY, SOME 20,000 PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES AND WORKERS IN THE NATIONALIZED SECTOR STAGED A ONE-HOUR MARCH FROM THE PARIS OPERA TO THE PALAIS ROYAL IN PROTEST AGAINST INCREASING INFLATION. ALL MAJOR TRADE UNIONS, INCLUDING FORCE OUVRIERE, PARTICIPATED IN THE MARCH.

2. COMMENT: THE MARCHES TOOK PLACE WITHOUT SERIOUS INCIDENT. THE STUDENT MARCH WAS AN ORDERLY PRE-SPRING FROLIC BY HIGH SCHOOL
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STUDENTS, FEW OF WHOM REPORTEDLY HAVE ANY GREAT UNDERSTANDING OF,

OR INTEREST IN, THE "CAUSE." SIMILARLY, THE MARCH OF THE PUBLIC
SERVICE WORKERS WAS A RITUALISTIC, SEEMINGLY FUTILE EXERCISE IN VIEW
OF THE IMPROBABILITY OF GOF GOING BEYOND THE 2 PERCENT INCREASE
GRANTED THE CIVIL SERVICE EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 1974.STONE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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